



Republican Policy Committee

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What Others Say About the Clinton Budget

Clinton Budget Leaves Deficit 'Alive and Well'

"I suppose everybody expects us to say the president's budget is dead on arrival, but the real problem here is that this budget leaves the deficit alive and well. That's the problem." — Senator Bob Dole (Op-Ed, *Washington Post*, 2/8/95)

President Clinton's budget "falls short, way short, of the deficit reduction we need. . . . He has dropped the ball." — Senator Jim Exon, D-NE (*New York Times*, 2/7/95)

"I'm disappointed that the proposed 1996 budget does not go further in reducing the deficit." — Senator Bill Bradley, D-NJ (*Washington Post*, 2/7/95)

"It's troubling that [the President] has now decided to take a holiday from the hard and painful responsibility to keep working the deficit downward." — (Editorial, *Washington Post*, 2/7/95)

"Mr. Clinton is punting. The President's approach gives Republicans in Congress the budget football. Mr. Clinton is preparing to play defense, hoping the Republican team will fumble." — Wessel and Calmes (Editorial, *Wall Street Journal*, 2/6/95)

"What is significant — and somewhat scary — is that President Clinton, in his own budget this week, showed no interest in ending the deficit at any time in the future. . . . Last year, he bragged that his budget 'keeps deficits on a downward path.' This year, he seems to have given up. Under his new budget, the deficit will rise, not fall, in the 1995 to 1996 period. And his total five-year deficits are \$80 billion higher than the deficits in the budget he submitted last year." — James K. Glassman (Editorial, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 2/12/95)

Clinton's budget is "unreadable, unwanted, the literary equivalent of a dense, musty fruitcake from some crazy aunt's oven." — James Lileks (Perspective, *The Plain Dealer*, 2/12/95)

"It's entirely true that Clinton's budget is cautious, even timid. It's a political budget." — E.J. Dionne Jr. (Editorial, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 2/9/95)

Clinton's "weak and directionless budget has given the incoming Republican majorities in Congress an opening that they have seized with joy." — (Editorial, *Washington Post*, 5/16/95)

"Clinton's budget is, in fact, a very clever political joke. Much of it is not really even a budget at all. It is a political statement." — James McCartney (Editorial/Opinion, *The Arizona Republic*, 2/13/95)

"Everyone knew the Clinton budget was not to be taken seriously; it was his way of saying 'you won the election; you balance the budget.' Rarely do presidents so completely abdicate their economic responsibility. He changed 'the President proposes, the Congress disposes' to 'the Congress proposes and disposes while the president treads water.'" — William Safire (*New York Times*, 5/15/95)

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